

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /082 W

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FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9011

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: RH PINT PINS MORG

SUBJ: RHODESIA PREPARES FOR GREATER MILITARY EFFORT

1. SUMMARY: IN ORDER TO COPE WITH INCREASING MILITARY DEMANDS, RHODESIA HAS EXTENDED MILITARY CALL-UP AGAIN AND ALLOCATED AN ADDITIONAL 15 PERCENT TO THE BUDGET FOR 1977, MOSTLY FOR MILITARY EXPENDITURES. END SUMMARY.

2. LOCAL PRESS REPORTS THAT MINISTER OF COMBINED OPERATIONS AND DEFENSE, ROGER HAWKINS, ISSUED A STATEMENT ON SEPTEMBER 27 WHICH PROVIDED SEVERAL NEW MEASURES TO INCREASE AVAILABLE MANPOWER FOR THE ARMED FORCES. THE MEASURES, HAWKINS SAID, WOULD INCREASE THE SECURITY EFFORT, MAINTAIN SECURITY FORCE LEVELS AT MAXIMUM STRENGTH AND "STRENGTHEN THE GOVERNMENT'S

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NEGOTIATING POSITION AS WE ENTER THE FINAL APPROACH TO OUR SETTLEMENT OBJECTIVE." THE MEASURES ANNOUNCED INCLUDED EXTENSION OF PROSPECTIVE COLLEGE STUDENTS' REQUIRED SERVICE FROM 18 MONTHS TO TWO YEARS PRIOR TO COMMENCING THEIR STUDIES; THE TRAINING OF ADDITIONAL BLACK RECRUITS FOR REGULAR ARMY AND POLICE FORCES; THE REQUIREMENT THAT MEN WITH CONTINUAL DEFERMENTS

OF ANY KIND SERVE PART-TIME WITH RESERVE UNITS; THE OFFER OF A R130 PER MONTH BONUS (RAND - \$1.15) TO REGULAR SERVICE MEN WHO EXTEND THEIR ACTIVE SERVICE BEYOND THEIR REGULAR 18 MONTHS FOR UP TO ONE YEAR; AND THE SAME BONUS FOR DISCHARGED SERVICEMEN WHO REENLIST FOR A MINIMUM OF FOUR MONTHS.

3. ON SEPTEMBER 21, THE MINISTER OF FINANCE, DAVID SMITH, REINTRODUCED THE BUDGET WHICH HAD BECOME INVALID AFTER THE DISSOLUTION OF PARLIAMENT BEFORE THE AUGUST 31 ELECTIONS. THE BUDGET WAS BASICALLY THE SAME (SEE PRETORIA 3553) EXCEPT THAT IT INCLUDED A 15 PERCENT INCREASE, ALMOST ENTIRELY TAKEN UP IN A R20 MILLION ADDITION FOR SECURITY EXPENDITURES. TOTAL MILITARY EXPENDITURE IS ESTIMATED AT R266 MILLION, OUT OF A TOTAL BUDGET OF R1.11 BILLION, WHICH REPRESENTS AN INCREASE OF 44 PERCENT OVER LAST YEAR ON MILITARY ITEMS.

4. COMMENT: NEW CALL UP PROCEDURES REPRESENTS LATEST IN A CONTINUING SERIES OF READJUSTMENTS BY THE GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE LONGER TERMS OF SERVICE BY BOTH REGULAR AND RESERVE SECURITY FORCES (SEE PRETORIA 2846 AND PREVIOUS). IN BOTH THE NEW CALL UP PROCEDURES AND INCREASED BUDGET, THE GOVERNMENT MAKES NO EFFORT TO HIDE THE FACT THAT THEY ARE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN RESPONSE TO INCREASING MILITARY PRESSURE.
BOWDLER

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 28-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation History:
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